

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PHOENIX MAN SENTENCED TO 135 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR TRANSPORTING 1,867 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA IN A SCHOOL BUS

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on January 26, 2004, Percy Anthony Kisto, D.O.B. 3/2/73, of Phoenix, Arizona, was found guilty of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B)(vii), Possession with Intent to Distribute 100 kilograms or more, but less than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana, and sentenced to 135 months in prison by United States District Court Judge David C. Bury in Tucson, Arizona.

On January 30, 2003, Percy Anthony Kisto was driving a yellow school bus when United States Border Patrol agents observed bundles of suspected marijuana through the back door window. Agents stopped the bus near mile marker 23 on FR-19, near Newfield, Arizona, and arrested Kisto after discovering 125 bundles of marijuana with a total weight of 1,867 pounds (846.8 kilograms). On November 3, 2003, Kisto pleaded guilty to the Indictment, admitting that he knew the marijuana was in the school bus and that he intended to deliver the marijuana to another person.

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A conviction for Possession with Intent to Distribute 100, but less than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana carries a maximum penalty of forty years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and not more than five years supervised release.

The joint investigation leading to the guilty plea was conducted by the United States Border Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The prosecution was handled by Jeffrey H. Jacobson, Assistant United States Attorney,
District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-410
RELEASE NUMBER: 2004-014

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